All pending claims are listed below:

Listing of Pending Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a subject suffering from a herpes virus infection or a disease associated with a herpes virus infection comprising: administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a ~~substance~~ **peptide** exhibiting mammalian alpha-1-antitrypsin (AAT) or AAT-like activity in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of an antiviral nucleoside derivative comprising vidarabine, azidothymidine, ganciclovir or a combination thereof.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said disease is malaise, fever, chills, rhinitis, diarrhea, atopic eczema, encephalitis, keratoconjunctivitis, pharyngitis, gingivostomatitis, herpetic hepatitis, recurrent orofacial mucocutaneous lesions or herpes labialis, chicken pox skin sores, erythema multiforme, idiopathic burning mouth, aphthous ulceration, Behcet's syndrome, or combinations thereof.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said disease is mononucleosis, Burkitt's lymphoma, primary effusion lymphomas, multiple myeloma, angioimmunoblastic lymphadenopathy, Castleman's disease, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)-related lymphoma, post-transplantation lymphoproliferative disease, Hodgkin's disease, T-cell lymphomas, oral hairy leukoplakia, lymphoproliferative disease, lymphoepithelial carcinoma, body-cavity-based lymphoma or B-celllymphomas, non-keratinising carcinoma, squamous cell nasopharyngeal carcinoma, kidney transplant-associated epithelial tumors, malignant mesothelioma, angiosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, angiolymphoid hyperplasia, prostatic neoplasm, cervical cancer, neoplasms of the vulva, retinoblastoma, Li-Fraumeni syndrome, Gardner's syndrome, Werner's syndrome, nervoid basal cell carcinoma syndrome, neurofibromatosis type 1, or combinations thereof.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said disease is polyneuropathy, motor neuropathy, sensory neuronopathy, polyradiculoneuropathy, autonomic neuropathy, focal or multi focal cranial neuropathy, radiculopathy, plexopathy resulting from tumor infiltration, or combinations thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 in which the ~~substance~~ **peptide** comprises AAT.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 in which the AAT is substantially purified from a wild type, mutant, or transgenic mammalian source.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 in which the AAT is isolated from a culture of wild type, mutant, or transformed cells.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the herpes virus comprises a virus selected from the group consisting of herpes simplex virus type I (HSV-1), herpes simplex virus type II (HSV-2), cytomegalovirus (CMV), Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), varicella zoster virus (VZV), herpes zoster virus, human herpes virus type V (HHV-5), human herpes virus type VI (HHV-6), human herpes virus type VIII (HHV-8), and combinations thereof.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Withdrawn—Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 in which the ~~substance comprises a~~ peptide **is** of the general formula: N_T–X_1–X_2–X_3–X_4–X_5–C_T or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, in which N_T comprises an amino acid residue positioned at the peptide's N-terminal end, including C, an acetyl group, or a succinyl group, provided that N_T can also be absent; X_1 comprises an amino acid residue, including F or A; X_2 comprises an amino acid residue, including C, V, L, M, I, A, C, or S; X_3 comprises an amino acid residue, including F, A, V, M, L, I, Y, or C; X_4 comprises an amino acid residue, including L, A, F, I, V, M, C, G, or S; X_5 comprises an amino acid residue, including M, A, I, L, V, F, or G; and C_T comprises an amino acid residue positioned at the peptide's C-terminal end, including C, an amide group, a substituted amide group, or an ester group, provided that C_T can also be absent, and in which the amino acid residue can be either an L- or a D-stereoisomeric configuration.

11. (Withdrawn—Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 in which the therapeutically effective amount of the ~~substance~~ **peptide** exhibiting mammalian alpha-1-antitrypsin (AAT) or AAT-like activity is in the range of about 1 mg per kg to about 100 mg per kg of body weight of the mammalian subject.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the therapeutically effective amount of the substance is administered systemically or topically.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said herpes virus infection is one of a mucosa and is selected from an infection of the oral soft tissues, middle ear, gastrointestinal tract, urogenital tract, airway/lung tissue, eye, peritoneal membranes, or combinations thereof.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 in which the substance is administered topically to said mucosa.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a herpes virus infection, which comprises a peptide of the general formula: N_T–X_1–X_2–X_3–X_4–X_5–C_T or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, in which N_T comprises an amino acid residue positioned at the peptide's N-terminal end, including C, an acetyl group, or a succinyl group, provided that N_T can also be absent; X_1 comprises an amino acid residue, including F or A; X_2 comprises an amino acid residue, including C, V, L, M, I, A, C, or S; X_3 comprises an amino acid residue, including F, A, V, M, L, I, Y, or C; X_4 comprises an amino acid residue, including L, A, F, I V, M, C, G, or S; X_5 comprises an amino acid residue, including M, A, I, L, V, F, or G; and C_T comprises an amino acid residue positioned at the peptide's C-terminal end, including C, an amide group, a substituted amide group, or an ester group, provided that C_T can also be absent, and in which the amino acid residue can be either an L- or a D-stereoisomeric configuration.

17-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Withdrawn) A method of preventing a deficiency of functional endogenous AAT levels in a mammalian patient susceptible to a viral infection that is mediated by endogenous host serine protease (SP) or SP-like activity, which comprises administering to such a mammalian patient a therapeutically effective amount of a substance exhibiting mammalian alpha-1-antitrypsin (AAT) or MT-like activity.

22-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Withdrawn—Currently Amended) A method for treating or preventing herpes, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a substance exhibiting AAT- or AAT-like activity**, wherein said substance comprises a peptide selected from FVFLM (SEQ. ID NO.1), FVFAM (SEQ. ID NO.2), FV ALM (SEQ. ID NO.3), FVFLA (SEQ. ID NO.4), FLVFI (SEQ. ID NO.5), FLMII (SEQ. ID NO.6), FLFVL (SEQ.**

ID NO.7), FLFVV (SEQ. ID NO.8), FLFLI (SEQ. ID NO.9), FLFFI (SEQ. ID NO. 10), FLMFI (SEQ. ID NO. 11), FMLLI (SEQ. ID NO. 12), FIIMI (SEQ. ID NO. 13), FLFCI (SEQ. ID NO. 14), FLFA V (SEQ. ID NO. 15), FVYLI (SEQ. ID NO. 16), FAFLM (SEQ. ID NO. 17), AVFLM (SEQ. ID NO. 18), FCICV (SEQ. ID NO. 19), FCVCF (SEQ. ID NO. 20), FIVCV (SEQ. ID NO. 21), FCVGV (SEQ. ID NO. 22), FCVLV (SEQ. ID NO. 23), FLVGV (SEQ. ID NO. 24), FSVSV (SEQ. ID NO. 25), FSVCV (SEQ. ID NO. 26), FVCVG (SEQ. ID NO. 27), or combinations thereof.

29-30. (Cancelled).

31. (Withdrawn—Currently Amended) A method of preventing sexually transmitted diseases comprising administering intravaginally or intrarectally an effective amount of a **composition comprising (1) a** substance having AAT- or AAT-like activity or a derivative thereof capable of inhibiting caspase, proteinase-3, cathepsin G, elastase, or combinations thereof **and (2) a second compound selected from anesthetics, analgesics, antibiotics, or combinations thereof**.

32-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Withdrawn) A method of preventing or inhibiting entry of herpes viral nucleic acid into a mammalian host cell nucleus, which comprises administering to a mammalian host exposed or at risk of potential exposure to an agent harboring herpes viral nucleic acid an effective amount of a substance exhibiting mammalian alpha-1-antitrypsin (AAT) or AAT-like activity.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 38 in which the entry of said herpes viral nucleic acid is mediated by endogenous host serine protease (SP) or SP-like activity.

40. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the peptide comprises FVFLM (SEQ. ID NO.1), FVFAM (SEQ. ID NO.2), FV ALM (SEQ. ID NO.3), FVFLA (SEQ. ID NO.4), FLVFI (SEQ. ID NO.5), FLMII (SEQ. ID NO.6), FLFVL (SEQ. ID NO.7), FLFVV (SEQ. ID NO.8), FLFLI (SEQ. ID NO.9), FLFFI (SEQ. ID NO. 10), FLMFI (SEQ. ID NO. 11), FMLLI (SEQ. ID NO. 12), FIIMI (SEQ. ID NO. 13), FLFCI (SEQ. ID NO. 14), FLFA V (SEQ. ID NO. 15), FVYLI (SEQ. ID NO. 16), FAFLM (SEQ. ID NO. 17), AVFLM (SEQ. ID NO. 18), FCICV (SEQ. ID NO. 19), FCVCF (SEQ. ID NO. 20), FIVCV (SEQ. ID NO. 21), FCVGV (SEQ. ID

NO. 22), FCVLV (SEQ. ID NO. 23), FLVGV (SEQ. ID NO. 24), FSVSV (SEQ. ID NO. 25), FSVCV (SEQ. ID NO. 26), FVCVG (SEQ. ID NO. 27), or a combination of two or more thereof.